

## TO CHANGE HANDS

## STREET RAILWAY WILL BE EQUIPPED BY A NEW COMPANY.

President Batchelder Writes Mayor Ross That the Electric Light and Railway Company has Completed a Transfer on Conditions—Will Put in New Tracks, New Cars and General Repairs, Calling for the Expenditure of Nearly \$50,000—Present Service and Equipment Very Unsatisfactory as Well as Dangerous.

The following letter with reference to the reorganization and re-equipment of the city street railway lines was received by Mayor Ross yesterday, which will be duly submitted to the city council through the regular standing committee:

Keene, N. H., July 2nd, 1917.

Hon. Finlay Ross, Wichita, Kan.  
Dear Sir—As indicated by our talks with you and the members of your city government, we have, since leaving Wichita, made some exertion to dispose of the Electric Light and Railway Company. We have now completed a conditional trade with W. F. Ellis, a man who went over the property on his way east from Colorado while we were on our way home. We have informed him of what your city government was willing to do in the way of modifying the existing franchise and our negotiations are based upon what was talked there being accomplished. In fact, the trade will not go through unless those modifications are made.

Mr. Ellis represents parties who will, as quickly as the preliminary work is done by way of modifications of the franchise, etc., for a new corporation, to which this property will be conveyed, and in an entirely new, modern, bonded back over the entire route now in operation, and equip the road substantially, with new, modern cars, and give just as good a street railway service as can be had in any city in the country.

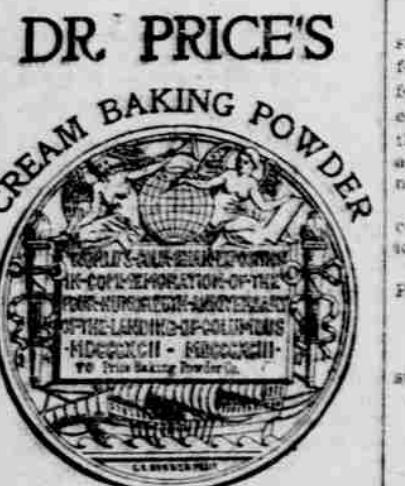
It has occurred to us that it might be regarded as an evasion of the Kansas statute restricting the time for which a franchise could be granted for twenty years to amend the present franchise by extending the time for which it is to run for seven years. We have said nothing to Mr. Ellis with reference to this but mention the fact to you in order that you and the city government may understand that, should the city solicitor think there was any question about an amendment of that kind being properly made, we make no objection to the repeal of the present franchise and the grant of a new franchise being regarded as the best method, please to understand that we have no objection whatever to the present franchise being repeated.

We have good reason to believe that the parties with whom we are negotiating will carry through their underwriting and put the railway in the condition they say they will. To do it they will have to put in a large amount of money in addition to the small amount they pay the parties we represent in the purchase of the plant. After putting in the amount required, the new company will, in its own interest, be compelled to give the best possible service in order to get a sufficient patronage to realize any fair return upon their investment, and for that reason, allow us to suggest that, whether the present franchise be amended or a new one granted, in either event, that the city government avoid undertaking to place any restrictions upon the road to such an extent as to cause them to hesitate about putting in the necessary funds in putting the road in order to do good service. In fact, it seems to us that the city can have no better service than the investment of the necessary funds by a company in putting the railway in good condition. The doing of that alone warrants good service and that is the only advantage to the city by reason of the railway.

We have done our best to bring about this sale and trust that you will extend the same courtesies to the parties with whom we are negotiating as you very kindly extended to us while we were there in reference to this disagreeable matter.

Very truly,  
A. T. BATCHELDER.

The people of this city have not been unduly put off over the appearance of their street railway equipment of late, nor have they been carried away by the character of the service afforded. The shabbiest thing in Wichita, the greatest mar to the general appearance of her principal thoroughfares are those same old weather beaten, shuffling cars. What with wires out of line, high-centers, low-joints, and crippled motors, there has been no telling when the next car would come along, or once aboard when you would get there, if you got anywhere with whole limbs and kidneys in their proper positions. Such has been the irregularity of service and kind of equipment that people have largely taken to wheels and heels. The patronage has dwindled away under such circumstances, of course, but not more rapidly than the service has deteriorated. Only those forced to ride have had the patience to wait or the necessary fortitude to risk life and limb. He or she who lives but a block from a line would rather strike out alone than take the chances of walking a block or two to



Above presented the official Medal awarded Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder by World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1933. The fame achieved at all the Great Fairs rests solely on its merits as the strongest, purest and best of all the baking powders, and truly stamps Dr. Price's as "The foremost baking powder in all the world."

## WHERE IT RAINED

## SEDGWICK, BUTLER, COWLEY AND SUMNER COUNTIES VISITED.

All Crops Believed From the Pressure of Dry Winds and Long Drought—Derby and Haystack in the South of Sedgwick County Falls to Catch the Good Fortune—Lyon and Augusta in Butler County; Winfield, Caldwell, Arkansas City and Other Towns South and East Get Through Soakings.

Heavy rains Sunday and Sunday night relieved crop conditions in this part of the state generally. The drought in some sections had been long and severe and would have destroyed the corn crop entirely if it had come at toiling time.

Over Pawnee, Barton and Barber and parts of Harvey, Butler, Sumner, Cowley and Sedgwick counties corn plowing had stopped some days ago on account of the drought, which came in time on some sections to cut the wheat crop materially. Parching winds Friday and Saturday was dwarfing the late fields, but was in no way effecting a blight as none of the big fields were far enough along for that.

Sunday morning local showers fell in Harvey, McPherson, Sumner and Cowley counties and continued through the day. At night the fall was more general. Over the north and east parts of this county the rain was satisfactory. At Derby, south of here on the S. A. Fe, there was no rain, and at Haystack, on the Rock Island south to within ten or fifteen miles of Caldwell, not enough water fell to lay the dust. In west Sumner, Harper and Kingman counties the showers were local and light in most places. A good rain fell at Hutchinson, Saturday night. The Eagle is advised as follows from other sections:

Leon, Butler County, July 5.—(Special.)—A heavy rain fell here Sunday afternoon and night. Corn was not slightly damaged by the drought, though the injury would have been heavy if the rain had continued much longer. The ground is thoroughly soaked.

Augusta, Kan., July 5.—(Special.)—More than two inches of water fell here Sunday night, thoroughly soaking the fields and brightening all crops out of the effects of the late drought and dry winds. The fall extended north beyond El Dorado, south to Rose Hill and Douglas, and as far east as Latham.

Arkansas City, Kan., July 5.—(Special.)—The heaviest rain of the season fell here last night. Corn looks today as if there had been no drought and farmers say that the ground is wetter than since February.

Caldwell, Kan., July 5.—(Special.)—A fine rain fell here last night and so thoroughly soaked the fields that farmers were unable to continue the work of harvesting today. It is estimated that an inch and three-quarters of water fell.

Hunnell, Kan., July 5.—(Special.)—This section was visited by a heavy rain storm last night. The corn is safe again.

Winfield, Kan., July 5.—(Special.)—A heavy rain fell here last night. North and east the fall seemed to be much greater than at this place.

ON THE UNIVERSITY OF LAW  
Judge Haymaker and W. E. Stanley Talk on Certain Citizenship.

Judge Haymaker delivered an address at the M. E. church last night on the subject of "Christian Citizenship." He laid down propositions concerning the universality of law and the fact that all the laws of God are harmonious and run on parallel lines. From these propositions he argued that there should not be one law to govern people on Sunday, and another to govern them during the remainder of the week; that there should not be one set of laws and principles to apply to moral and spiritual matters, and an entirely different and antagonistic set of laws and principles to apply to political matters. He argued all good people, as a matter of duty, take an interest in primary elections and county convention, and in the government and control of our cities and municipalities.

He declared if Christian people were too good to mingle with the world and try to help better its conditions, they should go off to a monastery and shut themselves off from contact with the world, or that if they were afraid they would lose their religion by contact with the world and an earnest effort to better its condition, their religion was of very poor material.

The address was compact, logical and scholarly. Judge Haymaker was followed by W. E. Stanley, who made an eloquent address of some fifteen minutes duration. He said he had been asked what he thought of woman suffrage. Said he: "When I see the goddess of liberty dressed in bloomers, riding a bicycle, and chewing gum, I will tell you what I think of woman suffrage." This brought down the house. Mr. Stanley was listened to with close attention, and his telling points made a deep impression upon the large audience.

CITY IN BRIEF.  
Charley Clark is in St. Louis.  
John Fisher is on the sick list.  
Harry James of Winfield was in the city yesterday.

Mrs. D. W. Pitts has gone to Kansas City for a few days.  
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McEntire and party

LITTLE FOLKS AT MASONIC HOME  
Superintendent Super Expresses Their Gratitude for Presents.

On behalf of the inmates of the Kansas Masonic Home, especially the little folks, I desire to express thanks to the following named for donations mentioned, and which contributed so much to the enjoyable celebration and festivities attendant upon the observance of our nation's birthday.

Albert Pike Lodge, No. 203, fireworks; committee of Albert Pike Lodge No. 303, ice cream, cake and lemonade.  
Messdames Vail, Pearce, Beach and Pratt, cakes.  
W. B. Bailey, five crackers.  
Barnes & Newcomb, fireworks.  
E. S. Magill, grocer, lemons and sugar.  
C. R. Fulton, clothes, ice cream.  
N. Steffen, caterer, ice cream.  
Very respectfully, J. F. SOPER, Superintendent.

THEY HAD THEIR SPITE  
Some Boys Try to Get Even With Rev. W. E. Stanley.

At a social at Rev. Hilton's some boys hung around, yelling, till Mr. Hilton ordered them off and away from the premises. This made the boys mad and for spite they stole Mr. Hilton's lawn mower, took it into a nearby street and mowed it all to pieces with a sledge or stone.

They All Come Back  
Hood's Sarsaparilla  
Is the standard—the One True Blood Purifier.

are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

## BURNED TO DEATH

## TWO HORSES BELONGING TO J. KUCHENMEISTER PERISH.

Bara Harard Sunday Morning—Thought That the Fire Started From a Sky Rocket or was Set on Fire by Tramps—Burned From Above—Two Horses, Back, Baggy and Road Wagon With a Lot of Farm Implements, Corn and Hay, All Reduced to Ashes—Loss Estimated at \$850.

Sunday morning about 3 o'clock Mr. Kuchenmeister, the gardener on East Harry street, had his barn, two horses, two buggies, a road wagon and quite a lot of corn and hay burned.

It is thought that the fire started from a sky-rocket, or was set on fire by tramps who slept in the hay mow, as it burned from the top.

Mr. Kuchenmeister was asleep and did not know of the fire till called by one of his neighbors. When alarmed of the accident he ran out, but the flames had already spread and was burning so hot that nothing could be saved. One of the horses that burned was loose in the barn and could have gone out, but remained in the fire even when the corn and hay in the upper part, all ablaze, came tumbling down. The cow happened to be picked out or she would have been added to Mrs. Kuchenmeister's loss.

The horses were family pets and very highly valued, and Mr. Kuchenmeister said yesterday that it seemed as though one of the family had died. The spring and road wagons and buggy were standing in a shed part of the barn and were all burned along with several farm implements.

The entire loss will not be much short of \$1,000, but is fully covered by insurance.

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE ON X RAYS  
New Photography Explained by Prof. T. H. Dismore.

Thomas H. Dismore, Jr., P. H. D., of the State Normal at Emporia, will lecture before the Normal Institute at the Y. M. C. A. building tonight. He will be illustrated with several hundred dollars worth of apparatus and the entire process of photographing through opaque objects, such as wood, leather, metal and the human body will be shown and explained.

Dr. Dismore is an enthusiastic scientific worker and one of the Redpath Bureau's men. He is now under engagement to lecture at Chattanooga, New York, and other eastern assemblies.

Among other things will be shown the photograph of keys, taken through leather, coins through wood, the skeletons of living fish, the bones of the hands and feet, bullets imbedded in the living body and many other things that almost surpass belief.

WAS CRUSHED TO DEATH  
W. T. Boyce Killed by a Santa Fe Passenger Train.

Head Clerk W. T. Boyce of the domestic department of Cash Henderson's store, was killed by a Santa Fe passenger train while on his way home to spend the Fourth with his parents.

The train due to leave here at 5:30 was an hour late, and waited for the passing of a freight at Udal. When Mr. Boyce attempted to get on from the platform he was thrown under the trucks of a sleeper and his leg cut off at the hip.

He died about 11 o'clock Saturday night and his funeral occurred yesterday at 1 o'clock.

Mr. Boyce was very popular at Cash Henderson's and had made many friends in the city, though he had been here only about six weeks.

THEY GOT IT ONE BETTER  
The Police Commissioners Show Up for the Month of June.

The police commission of Wichita not only believe in the policy that a city should be self-sustaining, but that a balance on the credit side of the ledger is what the average taxpayer likes, as it is the popular thing, whether the contrast proves either pleasant or explanatory thing the Governor Morrill regime. The board has squared up the police and other expenses for the month of June and turned in \$700 to the city treasurer, net, which will no doubt cause a broad smile among the city fathers, especially as considerable extra work is being done by the street force.

In three months the present board have turned into the city treasury, net, two thousand three hundred and fifty dollars, with a comfortable balance still remaining in the hands of the police commissioners. Both honesty and efficiency are indicated by this showing, the two highest commendations possible to public officials, and for which they are entitled to the thanks of at least all those who must help bear the expense of municipal government.

MUSSELMAN WINS OUT  
Gets Three of the Four Big Races at Arkansas City Yesterday.

Arkansas City had some bicycle races yesterday in which Musselman of this city entered. There were four races, and he won three of them. The fourth was a boys' race, or he would have carried off that race also.

The first was a half-mile open, with four starters. Just after the start was made one of the riders fouled Musselman and a spill was the result. The starter called them back, but two of the riders ran on and claimed the race. After heated arguments on both sides, the judges decided to run the race over. This made Higt and Carver sore, as they had sprinted around once and now refused to run. On the second trial Musselman won easily from Hartley, the only contestant.

In the mile open race Musselman fouled twenty yards ahead of the bunch and was riding erect with his hands touching lightly on top of the handle bar. Hartley was second and Carver third.

The two mile lay race was another easy Musselman victory, he winning the first, third and fourth laps, and first prize. Hartley was second and Carver third.

Musselman was accompanied to Arkansas City by Leroy Kramer, Sidney Toler, Bert Bryan, and A. H. Smith of the S. K. R. club, under whose colors Musselman rode. The purple and white of Wichita float in triumph over Arkansas City tonight. All the boys report a fine time and are rejoicing over the new laurels won by their favorite.

SOUR STOMACH.  
And every form of stomach weakness, cured by the new discovery STUART'S DYSPEPSIA TABLETS. Pleasant to take; full size price 50 cents; at drug stores. Back on stomach troubles and thousands of testimonials sent free by addressing STUART CO., Marshall, Mich.

Mr. Albert P. French, editor of the Mount Vernon (N. Y.) Daily Argus, came Wednesday in the city. Mr. French had been down to Oklahoma after spending two or three weeks with friends at Leon, Butler county. His wife being a Kansan, he came out with her to visit and to see the great west for the first time. He returned to Eldorado yesterday afternoon, where he made that people a Fourth of July talk.

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Mr. H. T. Strong and family of Oklahoma City, arrived in the city yesterday. They will make Wichita their home in the future.

Tommy Wisdom, of the Eagle force, is stepping high on the occasion of a ten-pound boy at his house. All the boys are smoking.

Will Dunn came up from Oxford for the Fourth. He was once a Sedgwick county boy but now is in the drug business at Oxford.

Mr. Harry and Miss Mattie Blattenberg of Spivey, Kan., came in to spend the Fourth with their sister, Dr. Everett, of College Hill.

Miss Emma Shank of St. Louis, accompanied by Master Earl Debon, arrived Sunday morning on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Julius Shank.

An appeal from the decision of County Superintendent Colville relating to change of boundaries in districts No. 13 and 20 was filed with the county clerk yesterday.

Guy G. Seaman, an old Wichita boy who has been at Galveston, Texas, since last August, was here Sunday on his way to Salt Lake City, where he will live hereafter.

Miss Lottie Shank, who has been attending the School of Fine Arts at St. Louis for the past year, has recently received a medal and diploma for the excellence of her work.

Governor Leedy appointed Mr. J. H. McKnight as a delegate from the state of Kansas to the nine-Mississippi Commercial congress which convenes in Salt Lake City on the 14th inst.

Sunday night an electric wire broke and made itself conspicuous on the corner of First and Emporia. Officer Stewart discovered the live wire and notified the proper authorities, who immediately repaired the damage.

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Fred Harvel, Clarence Buford, Dick Craig, John Scaggs and Jake Mitchell, charged with an attempt to commit rape on Rosa Seemann, were arrested and brought before Judge Glenn yesterday. He fixed their examination for Thursday July 5th, at 5 a. m. and in default of bail, committed them to the county jail